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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **LOTTERY SALES CROSS \$10 MILLION MARK**

Bismarck – The North Dakota Lottery has passed another milestone. Shortly after 5:00 p.m. last night, less than six months after the Lottery's launch, Powerball and Hot Lotto ticket sales passed \$10 million.

"The lottery has been so successful because of the variety, convenience, and fun we offer in our mix of games," said Chuck Keller, North Dakota Lottery director. As of last night's drawing, over 367,000 Powerball and Hot Lotto players have taken home more than \$2.1 million in prizes.

"We have 398 Lottery retailers throughout the state," said Keller. "These valuable partners and their employees are the first point of contact for players and they do a remarkable job selling lottery products," he continued. The first retailer in the state to pass \$100,000 in sales was the Lottery's number one ranking retailer, M & H Gas in Mandan. Statewide, Lottery retailers have shared over \$500,000 in commissions.

On September 23, 2004, the Lottery will introduce a new game, "Wild Card 2."

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